



TOWN OF WATERTOWN
Council on Aging
SENIOR CENTER

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Caryl Leslie Fox
Director of Senior Services

Patricia Gold, Chairperson

Minutes of COA Board Meeting- November 14, 2012

Members present: Mary Keenan, Will Twombly, Mike Donham, V.V. Martin, and Carol Airasian.

Member excused absence: Pat Gold, Hagop Sarkissian, and Dorothy Brown.

Staff members present: Caryl Fox, Debbie Dunn, Kathleen Wolf, and Laura Gold.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by COA Board member Mary Keenan.

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Board members. Will Twombly made a motion to approve the minutes and V.V. Martin seconded. Passed.

2. Financial Statements:

The Emergency Assistance and Electricity line items are being watched to make sure the funding remains adequate. A question was raised concerning the energy improvements for the Town buildings. The Senior Center will be getting a new boiler. There has been no date given yet for the start of the work in any of the buildings. The Project Bread grant award is used for Thanksgiving gift cards from Stop & Shop. The amount depends on the size of the family. Caryl Fox explained that the COA donations listed in the financial report each month go directly to the Town and are primarily from senior parking permit fees and shopping bus donations.

3. Hurricane Sandy, Seniors and the Center:

Watertown Fire Chief, Mario Orangio, who heads Emergency Preparedness for the Town was in contact with Caryl Fox several times during the day of the storm, October 29, 2012, checking to see if we knew of any seniors in need of assistance. In a time of need, the Senior Center is a designated day time shelter for any seniors in need.

4. Television Gift to the Movie Program:

The Senior Center received a gift of a new, 50" television from the daughter of a Watertown senior who attends the movie program. We have purchased a new cabinet to put it on and a Blu-ray DVD player. The larger screen will make it much easier for seniors to watch movies.

5. Food Pantry New On-line Donation Project:

Beginning this month, people will be able to donate to the Food Pantry on-line through their checking account or by credit card. Kathleen Wolf coordinated this project with help from

Alfredo Bartolozzi, the Food Pantry Coordinator, Phyllis Marshall, the Town Treasurer, and Joe Mahoney, the ITT Manager.

6. Information from Session on Open Meeting Law:

Mike Donham, Mary Keenan and Caryl Fox attended the meeting on the updated Open Meeting Law on November 8, 2012. The informational presentation was given by the Town's attorney. The law was revised two years ago and there have been some recent changes. Members of the Board who were not at the meeting were given the packet of material from the law firm of Koppelman & Paige that was made available. Board members discussed some of the alterations in the law including the time frame of meeting announcements, details required in minutes and the inclusion of emails in the definition of deliberations by a quorum of members.

7. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Submitted by Caryl Leslie Fox